

LITUANISTICA

Males Scarce.

N. Y. (LAIC) Hardly any Lithuanian males are left in the country. Many were taken by the Germans as their Slave Labor, while the remaining were either mobilized in the Red army or taken into Russian labor camps. Over 100,000 Lithuanians, including women, were ex-patriated into deep Russia.

War's Destruction.

N. Y. (LAIC) During the Russo-German war, many cities, towns and villages were completely wiped off. Among them: Šiauliai, Mažeikiai, Prienai, Šakiai, Jurbarkas, Darsuniškis, Pakuonis, Klaipėda, Alytus, Marijampolė, Vilkaviškis, Tauragė, Raseinai and Jonava. In Jonava, only the bridge across the Neris remained. Special SS demolition squadrons, before their retreat blew up all factories and bridges in Lithuania, also all worth while guidings, institutions of learning and bridges.

HISTORIC LITH. DATES

Vilna Controversy.

On October 7th, 1920 a non aggression pact was signed in Suvalkai between Poland and Lithuania. Two days later, Oct. 9th, without any warning, Polish armies under Želigowski, invade Vilna, capitol of Lithuania and a third of Lithuania territory, in one of the first and shameless acts of aggression during the Post World War No. 1, period.

On October 28th in 1939, Vilna was returned by the Russians to the Lithuanians and some months later Russia annexed Lithuania. Moral; Vilnius Lietuvai, o Lietuva Rusams—Vilna is given to the Lithuanians and the whole of Lithuania is taken by the Russians.

On October 24th, 1795, Lithuania was annexed for the first time by the Russians and remained subjugated for a 125 years, during which period the people were enslaved into serfdom (until 1865), and a period of expulsions to Siberia, mass hangings and bitter oppression ensued, but the Lithuanians survived only to experience it once again in the hands of Communist Imperialists.

Death of Vytautas The Great:

One of the most colorful men in Lithuanian History was Vytautas the Great. His biography would surpass in fascination anything ever written. During his reign Lithuania achieved the largest country in Eastern Europe with borders extending from the Baltic to the Black Seas and to the very gates of Moskow. His reign was one of the most tolerant Europe ever experienced or ever will. He invited to Lithuania Jews, Tatars, Kraates, Catholics, Orthodox etc. and all enjoyed equal rights and liberties. Vytautas the Great died on Oct. 27th, 1439.

A HAPPY FOREVER

By A. BRAYNARD NELSON

Dedicated to the souls of men
Who, loving Love, love Truth,—
And loving Truth, love God.

There is a way through life without sorrow or hardship or despair. It is the way of those who know and live, in love. Until we know the length and depth and breadth of love,—there is no light in our lives, but darkness. And darkness is the cause of woe.

The way through life, with Love,—is to have once experienced a very selfless love for one person,—and by this comparison, to love all men, in our hearts, as once we loved only one. This is to love men, as God loves men. This it is, to be loved by mankind, as we would have God Love us.

The way through life, with Truth, is to be lead by love, who sees only the good, the Godlikness of men. Only the good are the true. Would you have mercy? Be merciful. Would you have peace? Give peace. Would you know Truth? Do not say a thing unless you are very positive it is true,—and remember that what may be a truth for you, could be an untruth for another. Would you be free? Then bind no other soul, in any way, to yourself, but GIVE freedom of mind, of soul actions. Would you know Love? You cannot give what you have not got, and Love must grow in your heart by living up to the best there is in you,—by giving only the best your heart has to offer.

In this way, you will outgrow sorrow and pain and woe. You WILL outgrow it,—because you will be so full of Light there will be no room for darkness, no room for misunderstanding, no room for complaints of any kind. In this Light, in the giving and taking of light, you will also give and take the blessings of Peace, of Wisdom, of Love, and know Eternal Security. This is to be in heaven.

This it is,—to walk with God in your heart!

(Mrs. Nelson is a writer, publicist and a friend of many writers. We welcome her into our group of Vilti'tes.) VFB.

BE MINDFUL

Cpl. Marion Goswick

It is evening, a quiet one—a lapse between the hurry of day and the bustle of night. Neither dark nor light, warm or cold, the day is like thousands of others. Soft music of the Eastman Rochester Symphony performing a composition of "Beowulf" coming from the radio, the music is wonderful and the day serene. The period of day reminds us of stories about old country peasants, and how

they were in prayer at six o'clock every evening. They must have sensed the same quiteness of heart. They prayed many prayers. These prayers born in silence, yet so powerful they moved the world. A time when we should certainly pause a few minutes to thank the Almighty Father for our safe keeping and material blessings.

The quietness makes us pause and look from our windows. We see beautiful fertile, rolling fields, homes, or magnificent buildings, highways, flowers, etc. I wonder sometimes if we had been our ancestors who braved the unseen obstacles to make this possible for our grandchildren, would we have had the courage? I wonder if when they looked from the dug-outs, tents, wagons, at this time of day, that they too didn't feel a powerful spirit of thanks? I'm sure when they looked across this new land, they didn't see barriers, terrors, ruin, they saw hope and life springing up before their eyes, and in their hearts. They thanked God for the land he had given them, and saw unforeseen future in the possibilities of loam, rocks, creeks, and woods.

They dreamed of a new world. Their dreams have come true. They lived amidst danger, plagues, famines, etc., yet God took care of them, He gave them courage and led them to Him and victory over elements and ideas of men.

We are young, we have had good food, which has netted us good bodies, we have had education, and fun, which our ancestors dreamed for us and the dreams they worked so hard in physical labor for us to have. They wanted us to have this and more, they wanted us to have the love of God in our hearts. Today that dream has come true, in plain words, we have been set free to live.

Today we are taking our place in the nation, in the relationship to other nations, but shouldn't we stop this hury-tense life of ours and take a few minutes to earnestly pray and be thankful for our life? We should be mindful of our God, our educations, opportunities, parents, friends that the Lord has so bountifully heaped upon this nation of all nations, this people of all nationalities, and moulded us into one.

Now we are looking from our windows into the future, and what do we see? We see the same things as our forefathers saw. We see a hopeful future, one of hard work, one of tears and joy, but one of forward advance, we see a new era of brotherhood between peoples of the world, of governments of the world, and of industries on the sphere. We see our chance to be a helping hand to a stranger in the time of need. If our window is fused or dull, we lack one important thing in our life. We as a na-

tion worship God, and we as individuals should love Him with our soul. He makes things clear, he shows, points, and instructs us what to see and what is to be done for the welfare of humanity. He is the one who gives us courage, endurance, and an alert mind for observation of our friends and fellow men.

We have nothing to fear from physical dangers as our ancestors did, we have the courage and hope instilled by our Creator, what is there to keep us from going forward and making this world of ours a fit and pleasant place to life? Let us, as Abraham Lincoln says "afford all an unfettered start and a fair chance in the race of life."

THE INT. HOUSE FESTIVAL

On Sept. 1st, in the evening, the International House Folk Dancers presented their eight annual folk festival in the Int. House open air court. About 300 folk dancers were present and swirled and swayed to the orchestra strains as they played social, folk, polka's schottische's, waltzes, tangos, rumbas, etc. The court was decorated with Japanese lanterns and the crowd was colorful. Quite a few authentic costumes were evident. Philipino, Mayan from Mexico) Chesk, and others. The crowd too was the most cosmopolitan. Almost every race and hue was represented. Hindus, Malayans, Japanese, Chinese, Hawaiian, Filipino, Negro, Mexican, S. American, and many Europeans as well as Americans. Indeed a brotherly and international evening and a good portrayal how so many diverse peoples can gather and have a wonderful time regardless of race and creed.

The program part itself, tho not as colorful as in the past years, when many gaily costumed nationality groups gathered and performed their native dances in authentic costumes, nevertheless, they did their best, and an enjoyable program was presented. International House folk dancers, under Prof. Alfredo Manat's direction, presented three Polish dances, the Krakowiak, Wiengierka and Helena, and the Italian Quadrille. A Square Dance group from the Chicago Park District, under the direction of Mr. Graff, presented two square dances and then the entire crowd into two other square numbers, which was well enjoyed. Authentic Oriental dances were performed by Miss Perla Gavino who did a Phillipine Flag dance (and she really looked like a graceful butterfly in her native costume) two Hawaiian hulas in a shimmering skirt and brilliantly red lei, were performed by Miss Mildred Yee, she swayed like grass when blown by the gentle wind. I too did an Oriental dance. All in all, it was an enjoyable and a successful evening.

VFB.

COMMENTS & LETTERS

IT'S FUN!

Hello Mr. Beliajus; Must try to tell you how much I have enjoyed your little paper this summer. I find so many interesting articles in every number. I am sure the boys over seas are glad when they are fortunate enough to get your paper.

Letters from "Over There and Over Here" concerning things our brave boys have done and are still doing, are very interesting, and help to cheer them on their way. I am sure these reports and Finny's Funnies, the many letters and comments and news in general, given in each issue, are eagerly read. But how

are you able to gather such a wide scope of interesting information of "war, and Service men in particular, I can't imagine! It must take time as well as expense. So I'm enclosing a small contribution toward this beautiful cause

Mrs. A. Shoemaker
Fairhope, Ala.

(Thanks for subscription. The boys write and tell me all that happens to them and I, in turn, convey their news and views. It is fun! By the way, congrats on the birth of your new grand child and please extend my very best to the young Mr. and Mrs. Robert Young." Fin.)

Ah ... The Proud Mamas.

Dear Vytis; Here are my two dollars. I could not live without Viltis—or any other form of hope. Our son (George Gregory, born June 5th) is simply wonderful and beautiful—and so on. Somebody said "There is only one beautiful baby in the world—and every mother has one"!! He is very healthy and happy, and has the most gorgeous sparkling black (almost) eyes you've EVER seen.

Dottie Swedelius Spater
Fairhope, Ala.

From Another Mama.

Dear Vytis. I like your idea for subscription to Viltis. It is so much better than the "contribution" system, seems to me (to me too—Vytis.) I do hope the number of subscriptions will continue to increase and the paper grow accordingly.

Now, we have another Pat to write about, in our family. On August 2nd Lawrence Patrick Thomas arrived at our house. It was 5:31 when his voice was first heard—and a good strong voice it is. He weighed ELEVEN pound and was 22-½ inches long. He looks like his mama, some like his Sgt. Daddy, some like uncle Mordy, some like grand-daddy Arnold—but mostly like his uncle Pat. He is a fine looking boy.

Sue Arnold Thomas
Fairhope, Ala.

Our Dead Buddies.

Dear Vytau. Peace it's wonderful! I know how very happy you are to know that your boys will be alright now, and how happy we all are that those of our friends who are still alive will now return. I tried to get intoxicated on V-J day but the sobering thought way back in my mind, of the dear ones, yours and mine, who won't swing back, made it hard to feel joyful in any way. I'll never forget my friends and will try to be in the forefront with those who wish earnestly to secure the peace.

Cpl. Al Spear
Camp McCoy, Wis.

Says Scotty.

Dear Vytis. Have very much enjoyed your correspondence and encouraging copies of Viltis this past year and pray that your health will speedily be improved. Your good spirit have never faltered and have been an encouragement and a help to many of who might have fallen by the wayside. Best wishes from Bets and myself and we want to see you soon.

Lt. Scotty Bain
Ft. Knox, Ky.

Finny's - Funnies

Wife: "Oh, I'm so glad you came home in time to dress! We're going to have a newly-married couple for dinner!"

Husband: "I'm glad, too. They ought to be pretty tender!"

Visitor: "What does this painting represent?"

Artist: "The daughter of Satan."

Visitor: "Oh, I see—hell's belles."

Mrs. Tart: "Mary and I can hardly understand each other over the phone."

Mr. Tart: "Did you ever try talking one at a time?"

—v—

"If you were alone on an island and could choose one book, what would it be?"

"Boat-Building for the Amateur."

—v—

DRASTIC REMEDY

"It is extremele difficult in these times to be well dressed," complained a troubled subscriber to the query department of a Chicago newspaper. "Every time I put on a clean shirt, there are some buttons missing. What would you advise me to do?"

"You should do one of two things," was the reply. "Either get married or get a divorce."